

What is claimed is:

1 1. A personal computer card comprising:
2 an extensible antenna;
3 a coil spring that pushes the antenna from a
4 retracted to an extended position; and
5 a track laterally displaced with respect to the
6 coil spring to guide the antenna as it is pushed to its
7 extended position.

1 2. The card of claim 1 wherein said track extends
2 parallel to but is laterally displaced from the coil
3 spring.

1 3. The card of claim 2 including a catch that
2 retains said antenna in the retracted position.

1 4. The card of claim 3 wherein said catch is
2 released when the antenna is pushed beyond its retracted
3 position.

1 5. The card of claim 3 including a heart-shaped
2 groove, said catch including a finger that rides in said
3 groove.

1 6. The card of claim 5 wherein said finger is L-
2 shaped and includes a free end.

1 7. The card of claim 6 wherein said groove is heart-
2 shaped.

1 8. The card of claim 7 wherein said groove includes
2 a locking position which holds said end to resist movement
3 of said antenna.

1 9. The card of claim 8 wherein said catch is spring
2 biased.

1 10. The card of claim 1 including a traveler that
2 mounts said antenna and makes an electrical connection with
3 a printed circuit board when said antenna is in its
4 extended position.

1 11. A method comprising:
2 providing an extensible antenna in a personal
3 computer card;
4 providing a coil spring that pushes the antenna
5 from a retracted to an extended position; and
6 displacing a track laterally with respect to the
7 coil spring to guide the antenna as it is pushed to its
8 extended position.

1 12. The method of claim 11 including extending said
2 track parallel to but laterally displaced from the coil
3 spring.

1 13. The method of claim 11 including positioning a
2 catch to releasably retain said antenna in the retracted
3 position and enabling the catch to be released when the
4 antenna is pushed beyond its retracted position.

1 14. The method of claim 13 including enabling the
2 antenna to move more than 17 millimeters.

1 15. The method of claim 11 including enabling the
2 antenna to move approximately 27 millimeters.

1 16. A traveler for extending an antenna out of a
2 personal computer card, said traveler comprising:
3 an extensible antenna;
4 a coil spring that pushes the antenna from a
5 retracted to an extended position; and
6 a track engaging element, said element laterally
7 spaced with respect to the coil spring to enable the
8 antenna to be guided as it is pushed to its extended
9 position.

1 17. The traveler of claim 16 wherein said track
2 engaging element includes a U-shaped portion.

1 18. The traveler of claim 17 including an L-shaped
2 member that engages said coil spring and includes a track
3 that is engaged by said element.

1 19. The traveler of claim 16 including a resilient
2 catch mounted on said element to engage said traveler.

1 20. The traveler of claim 18 wherein said traveler
2 includes a heart-shaped groove, said catch including a
3 finger that rides in said groove.